

Faculty Senate, October 3, 2019

Meeting called to order at 11:00 am by Robert Mehalik, **President**
Meeting notes recorded by Joshua Chicarelli, substituting as secretary for Robin Weaver.

- Loring Prest, vice president, introduced himself again to new members. Requested that members from department who have more than 1 alternate determine if the multiple alternates should actually be full members (departments are only permitted one alternate). A list indicating membership and alternates by department **was circulated and** the group was asked to verify and revise the list as necessary.
- Craig Smith, APSCUF president spoke to the body regarding the triennial evaluation of President Jones by the council of Trustees. He informed the Senate that we may be contacted by the council of trustees, however, he is not sure if that will happen or, if so, to what extent.
- Len Colelli and Steve Atkins presented on Middle States Accreditation process.

Len informed the group that the MSA process has moved from a 10 year cycle to an 8 year cycle to encourage continuous progress. Every year, we must submit data to the middle states portal. Finally, **based on** any findings from the **MSA** visit (3rd week of March), **Cal U** will have to give **an annual updates** to middle states on how we are making **improvements**.

Dr. Catherine Foster (team chair) will be here on the first Monday of November to meet with faculty and may have lunch with faculty. Contact the president regarding attending the lunch on that day.

Steve Atkins informed the body that the Middle States accreditation process focuses on demonstrating three main items:

- Mission appropriate for higher education.
- Documentation that you are meeting the mission (educational effectiveness).
- Do you have the resources (spending money strategically to demonstrate that you are trying to meet the mission).

Assessment is critical because we may identify that we need additional resources to continue to improve. The budget process **MUST** include feedback from the previous assessment. University is considering establishing a budget line item for this process, however has not yet committed to an amount.

Currently, concern over our main weakness is assessment. We have been trying for the last two years to improve assessment. We looked at the plans given to Kutztown by Middle States in response to their finding and tailored our assessment plan implementations on the plans given to Kutztown.

Currently, university governance is handled in silos and there is no integrative body at the university level to combine the various components of the university. Two recommendations for the future were introduced to the senate; modifying the senate body to incorporate representatives from other areas or creating a strategic planning committee.

University programs are to generate action plan based on advisory committees, which should inform program outcomes going forward. These plans are due each fall. When the plans are

generated, the student data is a year old, but Middle States is more concerned that we have a process and that we follow that process, so receiving the data 1 year out is not of concern, as long as we interpret the data and implement process improvement as necessary.

Results report is completed and is posted on the u drive. Not all degree programs have learning outcomes, they were requested (most have been submitted). Going forward, gain access to portal and add assessment plan directly. Steve Atkinson will generate reports. Assessment plans are due by October 14th (used to be October 1). This will be the last time that we do a paper plan/results report. Going forward, it will be done in the Nuventive system (encouraged people to attend workshops).

Criticism of past process was that we expected everybody to follow that process, even if they were required to follow a different process for other accredited programs. We now permit programs which maintain separate accreditation to follow the process required by their accrediting body. 51% of our programs maintain separate accreditation.

In closing, Bob had discussions with Justin Hackett regarding assessment process for faculty senate of administration is currently being considered and revised. Will ask for volunteers for the subcommittee doing this.

- Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.